

Centennial Block
57-62 North Main Street
Concord
Merrimack County
New Hampshire

HABS No. NH-162

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MID-ATLANTIC REGION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

STATE New Hampshire	COUNTY Merrimack County	TOWN OR VICINITY City of Concord	HAB NO. NH-162 7- Co. 2-1
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) CENTENNIAL BLOCK - Source; Determination of Eligibility Report for the National Register of Historic Places, February, 1983			HAB NO. NH-162
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE CENTENNIAL BLOCK			
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 57-62 North Main Street, City of Concord, Merrimack County, State of New Hampshire			
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1876 (Source: Determination of Eligibility Report, February, 1983)		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) UNKNOWN	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) The Centennial Block was built for James R. Hill, founder of the company that manufactured the Concord Harness, a superior stage and farm harness. In addition to the Centennial Block Hill was responsible for constructing the State Block, Columbian Block and James R. Hill and Company building. A dry goods store owned by Messrs. Blanchard and Crapo was the (CONT.)			
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Commercial style with Italianate influences.			
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Red pallet brick with plain mortar. The foundation is split granite. The roof has internal drains and asphalt/gravel surface. Internal floor has framing of heavy timber and dimension lumber.			
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) The main building is approximately square (65'x70'). A one story square addition (25'x25') is added to the rear of the main structure after 1928. Overall building dimension (CONT.)			
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The structure is faced with red pallet brick with plain mortar. The facade contains two and one half (originally three) storefronts with fluted cast iron piers and multi light transoms (currently obscured by signs) defining their divisions. Upper levels of the facade have tall, narrow segmental-arched openings with granite keystone and sills. Arches are made of soldier courses of brick. A raised panel of brick (CONT.)			
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Interior features of the storefronts which are noteworthy are the original pressed metal ceilings and plain plaster walls. The original wooden stairs, of plain design, have also survived intact. Also surviving in the ground floor space occupied by F.W. Woolworth Company are hardwood cabinetry, molded brackets, and egg and dart and bead and reel moldings. (CONT.)			
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES The ground floor has been substantially altered. In 1939 the first floor storefronts were remodelled; in 1928 the second floor was converted from apartments into office space. Sometime after 1928 a one-story flat roof addition was constructed to the northwest corner of the building for storage space for F.W. Woolworth Co.			
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Currently, upper floors house vacant housing units; the ground floor is the only floor with occupants. It contains three commercial tenants: F.W. Woolworth Company; Jacqueline of Wales and Speers Jewelry and Gifts. Condition of the structure is good.			
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE The Centennial block is part of the Durgin Block Redevelopment Project which is being funded in part by Urban Development Action Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Project includes the privately financed rehabilitation of the State Building and the facade of the Hill Building and the (CONT.)			
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Determination of Eligibility Report for the National Register of Historic Places for the Durgin Block Redevelopment Project, February, 1983.			
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Sharon Landry, Community Development Director City of Concord, New Hampshire			DATE October 13, 198

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

Centennial Block
57-62 North Main Street
Concord, N.H.

SIGNIFICANCE:

original ground floor tenant of the Centennial Block; the second and third floor originally housed apartments. The name of the Building commemorates the date of its construction in 1876, the year the nation celebrated its centennial. A fire on the site destroyed the original frame, leather shop and dwelling in which James Hill's father lived.

Significant architectural features of the Centennial Block include corbelled arches, denticulated cornice, and segmental arched windows with granite lintels and keystones. The upper stories of the facade are Italianate in style with the rhythmic fenestration of arched windows under corbelled masonry arches.

SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE:

approximately 65'x95'. Second and third floors have an L-shaped plan because the northwest quadrant of the building remains open forming an alcove.

EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE:

arranged in a reticulated fashion extends accross the facade and supports a decorative lintel course extending between the arches by means of a granite impost block. Brick entablature has corbelled round arches stepped from the wall plane, surmounted by a denticulated cornice.

INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE:

Interior features of note on the upper floors are a large square hall and a light well served by a roof skylight. Most of the rooms on the third floor have beaded matched board wainscoting and mitered window and door trim. Interior of second floor offices have been remodelled with sparse finishes of plain board trim.

OTHER INFORMATION:

construction of a new building upon the site of the Centennial Building. The federal funds will be used primarily to construct a multi level parking garage to the rear of the buildings.